



UNDERSTANDING GASTROINTESTINAL PROBLEM

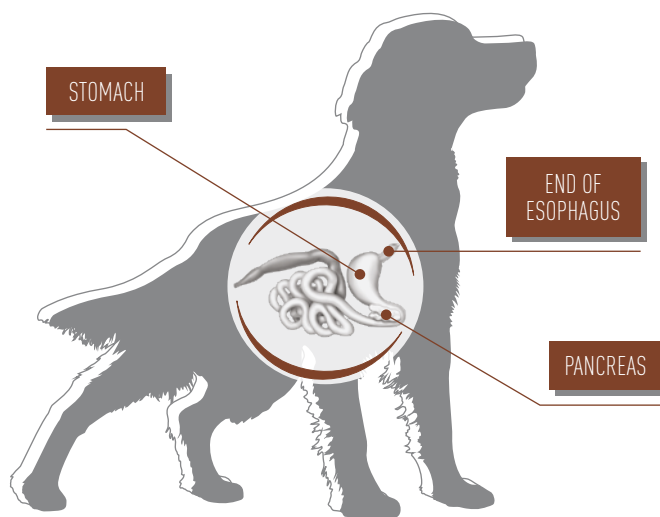
**DIETS YOU MAKE AT HOME MAY
NOT BE ENOUGH FOR DIGESTIVE SUPPORT**

Follow your veterinarian's expert advice
about tailored nutrition to address
your pet's digestive needs.



DIGESTIVE SYSTEM: A GROUP OF ORGANS RESPONSIBLE FOR DIGESTION

It comprises of the **gastrointestinal tract** (oral, cavity, esophagus, stomach, small and large intestines, rectum and anus), and accessory organs like the **pancreas and liver**.



DIGESTION IS THE PROCESS THROUGH WHICH
THE ANIMAL GETS ENERGY AND ESSENTIAL
NUTRIENTS FOR VITAL FUNCTIONS FROM FOOD.

UNDERSTANDING GASTROINTESTINAL TROUBLES

The clinical signs of digestive disorders that you should pay attention to (but are not limited to)



- 1 Loss of appetite and refusing to eat
- 2 Sudden worsening of 'bad health'
- 3 Flatulence and rumbling stomach
- 4 Weight loss despite normal appetite
- 5 Vomiting, diarrhea or constipation

IF YOUR PET SHOWS ONE OR MORE OF THESE SYMPTOMS, THE FIRST THING TO DO IS:
CONSULT YOUR VETERINARIAN

Digestive disorders are notoriously difficult to diagnose, as there can be many different causes, including:



IBD
(chronic inflammatory disease)



VIRAL OR BACTERIAL INFECTION



PARASITES



UNDERLYING DISEASES,
e.g. pancreatitis, renal failure



**SCAVENGING AND CONSUMING
INAPPROPRIATE FOOD**

That's why in-depth veterinary examinations may be needed to reach a precise diagnosis and determine the treatment required.

DIGESTIVE DISORDERS MAY MEAN YOUR PET IS LACKING ESSENTIAL NUTRIENTS

As part of the process of diagnosing the cause of the disorder and identifying the most appropriate solution, your veterinarian will **probably recommend changing your pet's food to a specially adapted diet from ROYAL CANIN®**, which will also help to compensate for your pet's impaired ability to digest.

**ROYAL CANIN® OFFERS THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE
RANGE OF GASTROINTESTINAL DIETS**

Each precisely designed to meet the individual needs of dogs or cats with digestive issues and help support a healthy digestive function.



► **GASTROINTESTINAL**

► **GASTROINTESTINAL
HIGH FIBRE**



► **GASTROINTESTINAL
LOW FAT**



IT'S NORMAL IF YOUR VETERINARIAN OFTEN RECOMMENDS NEW DIETS

The term '**chronic**' describes disorders which **occur over an extended period of time, and these are often the most difficult to diagnose and manage.**

Your veterinarian may need to recommend (and subsequently rule out) a number of different diets until the most suitable option is identified. This is perfectly normal clinical practice, and each change must not be viewed as a failure or a setback.



WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR PET'S DIET, REMEMBER TO FOLLOW A **GRADUAL 7-DAY TRANSITION** UNLESS YOUR VETERINARIAN ADVISES YOU OTHERWISE.

GRADUALLY REPLACE THE PREVIOUS DIET WITH THE NEW DIET OVER A 7 DAY PERIOD.



DAYS 1-2
75% of current diet
25% of new diet



DAYS 3-4
50% of current diet
50% of new diet



DAYS 5-6
25% of current diet
75% of new diet



DAYS 7 & AFTER
100% of new diet



CHECK YOUR PET'S FECES

THE APPEARANCE OF FECES IS AN EASY WAY
TO ASSESS YOUR PET'S GASTROINTESTINAL FUNCTION.



An optimal stool should look like the one below.

Whilst it's not abnormal to have slight variations from one stool to another, a persistent deviation in shape, color, consistency and/or the presence of blood or mucus should be reported to your vet.



ADULT DOG



! Stool with clearly defined shape and visible cracks,
leaving very little residue on the ground when picked up.

DIETARY DETAILS

(TO BE FILLED BY YOUR VETERINARIAN)

Daily feeding amount:..... Duration:.....days

GASTROINTESTINAL

DRY

POUCH

CAN

GASTROINTESTINAL

HIGH FIBRE

DRY

GASTROINTESTINAL

LOW FAT

DRY

CAN

Find out more about nutrition
for gastrointestinal disorders in cats and dogs at

royalcanin.com